

APPENDIX

1. (Three times Amended) A method of searching for a string in a lexical cache, comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

generating a key based on the string;

identifying a lexical container from among a plurality of lexical containers based on a length

of the key, said lexical containers associated with respective key lengths and configured

to hold respective maximum numbers of entries based on the respective key lengths; and

searching the lexical container for an entry associated with the string based on the key,

wherein at least one of the lexical containers is configured to hold a different maximum number of entries than at least another one of the lexical containers.

16. (Three times Amended) A computer-readable medium bearing instructions for searching for a string in a lexical cache, said instructions arranged, when executed by one or more processors, to cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

generating a key based on the string;

identifying a lexical container from among a plurality of lexical containers based on a length

of the key, said lexical containers associated with respective key lengths and configured

to hold respective maximum numbers of entries based on the respective key lengths; and

searching the lexical container for an entry associated with the string based on the key,

wherein at least one of the lexical containers is configured to hold a different maximum number of entries than at least another one of the lexical containers.

31. (Twice Amended) A method of storing a string in a lexical cache, comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

generating a key based on the string;

identifying a lexical container from among a plurality of lexical containers based on a length of the key, said lexical containers are associated with respective key lengths and configured to hold respective maximum numbers of entries based on the respective key lengths; and

storing the string in an entry in the lexical container based on the key,

wherein at least one of the lexical containers is configured to hold a different maximum number of entries than at least another one of the lexical [conxtainers] containers.

32. (Twice Amended) A computer-readable medium bearing instructions for storing a string in a lexical cache, said instructions arranged, when executed by one or more processors, to cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

generating a key based on the string;

identifying a lexical container from among a plurality of lexical containers based on a length of the key, wherein the lexical containers are associated with respective key lengths and configured to hold respective maximum numbers of entries based on the respective key lengths; and

storing the string in an entry in the lexical container based on the key, wherein at least one of the lexical containers is configured to hold a different maximum number of entries than at least another one of the lexical containers.

35. (Once Amended) A method of providing a lexical cache, comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

allocating a plurality of lexical containers each configured to a respective maximum number of entries based on a key length; and

searching for one of the entries associated with a string within one of the plurality of lexical containers corresponding to a key generated based on the string,

wherein at least one of the lexical containers is configured to hold a different maximum number of the entries than at least another one of the lexical containers.